

David Blumstein
SB 416

Gentlemen,

Bill No. 416 will eliminate the level of Advanced Emergency Medical Technician. I and my fellow Advanced EMT's are asking for you to support the volunteers of Stratford EMS and ask the members of the Public Health Committee to NOT support this bill. Over 740 EMS providers in Connecticut are certified at the AEMT level. They are perfectly positioned between the EMT level and Paramedic level in their skills and ability to provide advanced medical care to their patients.

Rather than elimination, the level should be brought into alignment with the 2009 National Scope of Practice study. This study recommends bringing the many levels of EMS provider throughout the country into alignment with a uniform skillset and educational requirement. This is something that the Sponsor Hospital Council of Greater Bridgeport has been doing with the enhanced AEMT coursework developed by Barry Barkinsky. The SHCGB has already incorporated most of the 2009 National Scope of Practice study and requires it for certification yet the State of Connecticut limits practice to the '85 level.

In addition to setting back patient care, this bill places an even larger burden on the paramedic level by removing advanced assistance from the paramedic's repertoire. There is simply no viable justification for reducing available high level patient care in the State of Connecticut. It does not save any cost, it does not increase proficiency and it has the effect of lowering care and morale.

I ask that you do not support this bill which effectively punishes those who have taken the extra step and expense to further their education in order to provide higher level care to the residents and voters of your district.

Sincerely,

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